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Washington---With all league competition at a standstill in deference to the annual East-West Classic, in which the West defeated the East, 4-1, in Chicago, Sunday, after losing, 6-3, to the East, in Washington, Thursday night, the Newark Eagles stayed atop the second half National League standings with the same two-and-a-half game margin.

League play will pick up this week end, however, as the six loop teams launch the final drive for the coveted pennant, now held by the Homestead Grays. Newark, first half winners, face a stern test on Sunday when they engage the winner of the Philadelphia Stars-Grays clash in Newark in the second half of a three-team twin bill.

On the same date, the Black Yankees engage the Baltimore Elite Giants in a twin bill, while the Cubans, chief threat of the Elites, swing into action on Tuesday, Aug. 29th, against the Elites.

From there on until the final league contest on Sept. 15, a dog fight to the finish is calculated with a prize of \$1,000 awaiting the second place club and \$500, the third place club, in addition to the world series spoils for the victorious club.

In the week-end exhibition games, the Homestead Grays swept a three-game series with the Atlanta Black Crackers, winning, 5-1, at Pittsburgh, Saturday, as Harold Hairston granted the Southerners by three scattered hits, and taking a twin triumph, 10-1 and 6-2, at Griffith Stadium, Sunday.

Jerry Benjamin, in charge of the Grays in the absence of Pilot Vic Harris, had a perfect day at bat, collecting five singles, two doubles and a triple in eight trips to the plate, while Frank (Groundhog) Thompson and Gene Smith held the Atlantans in check. Thompson granted seven hits in the opener, while Smith allowed but four in the seven-inning nightcap.

In Baltimore's Sabbath exhibition tilts, the Elites twice thumped the Newark Eagles, 7-3 and 7-1. Bill Barnes hurled 5-hit ball for the Elites in the first game, while Joe Black held the hard-hitting Eagles to six hits in the nightcap. The Eagles used England, Cotton, and Peace on the mound, with Cotton doing a relief stint in both contests.

The schedule follows:

August 24---Black Yanks at Phila. Stars

August 25---Black Yanks at Baltimore, 2 games  
Grays vs Philly Stars at Newark. and winner  
vs Newark Eagles

August 27---Cubans at Baltimore  
Black Yanks at Newark

August 29---Baltimore at Newark.

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*League game Aug 23rd*